

Guam was governed by the American Department of the Navy and defined as an unincorporated territory, meaning it is not part of the United States, but is owned by the United States.

After hardships endured during World War I and World War II, Guam remained under American rule, and in 1950, the people of Guam were finally declared American citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I have briefly glossed over almost 100 years of Guam's history. Yet even from what I have mentioned, it is sometimes difficult to discern why there should be a certain ambivalence about American rule. For one thing, I did not mention that Congress, this body and the Senate, are obligated to determine the political status of Guam's native inhabitants. However, even after 100 years, this issue still has not been resolved.

The Guam Centennial Resolution is a form of commemoration, reflection and education. It commemorates the courageous story of a proud people from the pre-European contact period to our existence under the American flag today. It reflects on Guam's path to resolving its political status and calls on the House of Representatives to affirm its commitment for increased self-government for the people of Guam. It educates by detailing Guam's political history and our continued quest for increased self-determination.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Republican and Democratic leadership, both Speaker GINGRICH and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), as well as the leaders of the Committee on Resources, the gentleman from Alaska (Chairman YOUNG) and the gentleman from California (Mr. MILLER), as well as over 50 of my colleagues who have agreed to be cosponsors of the Guam Centennial Resolution. Such strong support for this resolution demonstrates this chamber's ongoing commitment to the people of Guam.

I realize that it is difficult at times to understand the aspirations of a people located 9,500 miles from Washington, D.C., a people whose closest neighbors are Asian and Pacific Nations. However, the introduction of the Guam Centennial Resolution is yet another step in increasing this body's and this Nation's understanding of Guam and its unique role in the American family.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to recognize Senator AKAKA of the other body who has introduced a companion resolution in that other body.

Mr. Speaker, I beg my colleagues in the House to support H.Res. 494.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 297. Concurrent resolution providing for an adjournment of both Houses.

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BERLIN AIRLIFT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift, one of the most defining events in world history.

Tomorrow marks the 50th anniversary of the first American flight carrying food and supplies to the communist encircled City of Berlin. Two days earlier, the Soviet Union announced its intention to completely prohibit transportation in and out of the western sectors of Berlin.

Throughout the course of the mission, approximately 600 flights a day brought provisions to a city isolated from the world by the Soviet military. By its conclusion, more than a year later, 2.3 million tons of food and coal for fuel had been delivered to Berlin. "Operation Vittles," as it was called, consisted of nearly 278,000 flights by American, British, and French aircraft. The Soviets eventually submitted to American determination and reopened ground routes into Berlin.

The historical significance of the airlift is that it signaled the United States' resolve to reject communist oppression. In addition, the Berlin Airlift sent a clear message to the world that the United States would not abandon an ally in its time of need.

As we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift, we are reminded that as Americans we must stand up for democracy when it is challenged.

Time and time again, history has taught us that we defend freedom when it is threatened. However, our responsibility carries with it a tremendous price, both in monetary terms and in human life. The Berlin Airlift costs an estimated \$200 million, and even more important, it took the lives of 79 individuals, including 31 American servicemen.

Although the airlift occurred between 1948 and 1949, its legacy lives today in the hearts of people around the world. The courage displayed by its participants still serves as a shining example of freedom's triumph over tyranny. Our refusal to submit to Soviet aggression 50 years ago led the groundwork for lifting the Iron Curtain of communist oppression and tearing down the Berlin Wall.

Mr. Speaker, let us perpetuate the legacy of the Berlin Airlift. Congress must honor those whose tremendous acts of courage during the airlift promoted freedom and democracy. As Americans, we must continue to ensure that these principles are cherished throughout the world.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN JIM TRAFICANT AND WILLIAM FRANKLIN HANKS, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to pay tribute to two close friends of mine, one here in the Congress and one in my hometown of Knoxville.

The first is the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT), one of the most popular Members of this body on both sides of the aisle. I pay tribute to the gentleman from Ohio tonight because of the bill that we just passed to reform the IRS.

Newsweek Magazine recently had a cover story about the IRS, and on its front cover Newsweek described the IRS as "lawless, abusive, and out of control." But for many years, and probably longer than anyone else presently in the Congress, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) has been speaking out against IRS abuse of ordinary citizens.

In addition, it was the gentleman from Ohio who originally authored the legislation to place the burden of proof in tax cases on the IRS rather than on the taxpayer. In other words, thanks primarily to the gentleman from Ohio, a taxpayer will not now be subjected to the very un-American injustice of being presumed guilty unless or until he proves himself innocent.

Many people seem to be taking credit for this provision now, but I think the primary credit should go to our friend: JIM TRAFICANT.

Mr. Speaker, I think that about 85 to 90 percent of the American people want us to drastically simplify our tax laws. Mr. Speaker, we certainly should, but I doubt that we will any time in the near future. But at least we have passed this IRS reform today and the gentleman from Ohio deserves the most credit for the most significant part of it, and I salute the gentleman for this great accomplishment.

IN TRIBUTE TO BILL HANKS

Mr. Speaker, next I would like to say a few words about a close friend of mine from home, Bill Hanks, who recently retired after a long and successful business career.

William Franklin Hanks, Jr., was born in Raleigh, North Carolina, October 15, 1934. He grew up in Charlotte, North Carolina, where his parents, Sally and "Tubby" Hanks moved when he was a year old.

Bill graduated from Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina, in 1957, where he played varsity basketball and was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

It was at Furman that he met Beth Ballentine, a South Carolina girl who stole his heart; and they were married after his graduation.

Bill coached basketball one year at Statesville, North Carolina High School. After 5 years in sales for the Weyerhaeuser Corporation, he joined the sales force of Package Products Company in Charlotte, resulting in his move to Knoxville in 1964.

He has spent 34 years in sales and retired recently as national accounts

manager for the Sonoco Corporation, which bought Package Products 3 years ago.

Bill is known by his family and friends for his sense of humor, his loyalty and his dedication to God, his family, his work and his community.

He has served the Eastminster Presbyterian church in Knoxville as an elder, deacon, Sunday School teacher, youth fellowship volunteer, stewardship and finance committees, always giving his time and talents unselfishly.

Bill and Beth are extremely proud of their family: Linda Hanks Kapstein and husband, Dan, who have two sons, Zachary and Jacob, and live in Little Compton, Rhode Island;

William F Hanks, III, his wife Patti and their three children, Chelsea, Will IV, and Heath, who reside in Plant City, Florida;

Wallace Sidney Hanks and his wife, Traci, and daughter, Sidney Beth, live in Dalton, Georgia; and

Lucille Rand Hanks who lives in Alexandria, and has been my office manager and has been with me since I first came to the Congress.

Professional accomplishments by this man include membership in his company's Million Dollar Club and Winner's Circle for many years. In the Knoxville community, Bill Hanks has devoted many hours to coaching youth in city basketball leagues, Boys Club and church leagues, always teaching fundamentals and teamwork.

Helping young people develop high moral standards and good work ethics while enjoying sports earned him the Mayor's Merit Award in 1975 in the field of athletics, for outstanding achievement in service to the City of Knoxville.

Though Bill remains loyal with gifts to his Alma Mater, Furman University, he has "adopted" the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, and is an avid fan and supporter of "Big Orange" athletics.

Now in retirement, Bill will continue as a broker in the packaging business; but he and Beth will divide their time between Knoxville and a home in Fripp Island, South Carolina, and will mainly enjoy spending time with their children and grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I can say without hesitation or reservation that this country is a better place because of great Americans like Congressman JIM TRAFICANT and my friend, Bill Hanks.

BILLY CASPER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN), of the "Duncan Caucus," for that fine speech that he just made and I will be chairman next year, hopefully, and then he can follow me in these special orders.

Mr. Speaker, let me give my kudos to a great athlete, one of the greatest ath-

letes who ever resided in the county of San Diego where I live, and where my good golfing buddies the gentleman from California (Mr. CUNNINGHAM) and the gentleman from California (Mr. PACKARD) also live, two pretty good athletes themselves, because Billy Casper is one of the greatest golfers who ever lived on the face of the Earth.

□ 1845

He had a record of over 50 victories, including three majors. Now after his playing time on the regular tour, PGA tour has long since passed, Billy Casper just did something this last week that is quite extraordinary.

He went to Utah to play in Johnny Miller's champion's challenge and Johnny Miller's champion's challenge, if you read the list of the players who participated, read like the book of champions. Included in the field were Gary Player and his son, Johnny Miller and his son, Jack Nicklaus and his son, Hale Irwin and his son, John Daley, Laura Davies, Julie Inkster, Lissolette Neuman, two of the great players on the women's tour, Craig Stadler and Fuzzy Zoeller and, of course, Billy Casper and his own son Bob.

Billy Casper in this tournament, which was a two-man scramble, I understand there was a \$500,000 tournament, \$125,000 to the winners, Billy Casper and Bob Casper, his son, won that tournament at 11 under par.

Billy Casper was always remembered as being one of the finest putters, probably the finest putter and short game player in the history of the game. He had a putting stroke that was unmatched by anybody. And when we had the recent U.S. Open at the Olympic Golf Course in San Francisco just this last week, we were all reminded of 1966, when Billy Casper trailed Arnold Palmer by 7 strokes with only 9 holes to go in the championship, tied him on that last 9 holes, Billy Casper, our Billy, shot a 32 to Arnold Palmer's 39 and Billy then won the playoff the next day.

The trophy in this particular Champion's Challenge was made by Mark Martinson, one of our great western artists. It is a wonderful trophy. It is a bronze trophy entitled, Champions in the Making, and Mark Martinson is one of our budding artists and also a great golfer who accompanied Billy Casper to this tournament in Utah. So San Diego recognizes you, Billy, as being one of the greatest champions whoever lived and whoever graced our wonderful county in San Diego. We hope to see you win a lot more tournaments.

A GOOD WEEK FOR THE PEOPLE OF NORTH CAROLINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, this has been a good week for the people of America and for the citizens of the First Congressional District of North Carolina.

First the President signed the Agriculture Research Extension and Education Reauthorization. That legislation is important for agriculture research, as well as for restoring food stamps and the much-needed crop insurance for farmers. It recognizes the need for rural development programs, which allow the Secretary to provide funds for water and sewer development as well as funds for research programs, including those involving cotton and pfiesteria, important research needed for Eastern North Carolina.

It also provides for the continuation of land grant research programs, including those at historical black colleges and universities, and education land grants for Hispanic-serving institutions.

The food stamp restoration targets the most vulnerable legal immigrants: the elderly, disabled persons and children. It targets refugees, who often came to this country without nothing but the clothes on their backs, and veterans who fought courageously along the U.S. military forces in Vietnam.

They were eligible for food stamps prior to the Welfare Reform Act of 1996. The importance, the urgency and the fairness of the agriculture research bill to all growers and consumers of agricultural products is paramount.

We also passed H.R. 4060, the Energy and Water Appropriations Act for fiscal year 1999, which includes money for the Wilmington, North Carolina port. That measure included \$8.3 million in funding for the deepening and widening of the port at Wilmington, North Carolina which has historically served as one of the greatest sources of revenue along the East Coast.

While generating over \$300 million in State and local taxes, the port creates over 80,000 jobs in North Carolina. Along with North Carolina, many other landlocked States of the southeast have used the Port of Wilmington as a conduit to the Atlantic Ocean and to the rest of the world.

Completing the Cape Fear River deepening project is indeed prudent spending of Federal funds, long range vision, and it does indeed allow for a balance of our priorities. I also applaud the passage of H.R. 4101, the fiscal year 1999 Agriculture Appropriation Bill. The bill provides a total of \$55.9 billion for agriculture, rural development and food nutrition programs.

I am delighted that several amendments to the bill were defeated, including one against the peanut program, which is so important to my district, which was voted down by a higher margin than last year. The bill increases funding for farm operation loans, maintains funding for the WIC program, funds the Federal Crop Insurance Program, increased funding for agriculture inspection and holds the line on agriculture research, and increases funding